THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) The Regional Centre for Training and Research in Municipal Administration was established with assistance from Govt. of India in 1968 in the Indian Institute of Social Welfare and Business Management at Calcutta. This Institute was intended to serve the Eastern Region. In 1982 Govt. entrusted the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) with a study to evaluate the performance of this regional Centre. In its report the NIUA found that the performance of the centre was not satisfactory. Inter-alia, the evaluation report revealed that the Centre had failed to conduct any course during the year 1981-82. Efforts made by the Ministry to revive the Centre were not successful. In view of this background it was decided to discontinue any further aid to the Institute.

Environmental Studies

4454. SHRI AMAL DATTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have sponsored or assisted any regional centre for environmental studies in any of the Eastern States; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has sponsored the Centre for Mining Environment, at Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad. The National Wastelands Development Board under the National Social Forestry Project has assisted in setting up two regional centres, viz., one at North Eastern Hill University, Shillong and the second at Jadavpur University, Calcutta. The Botanical Survey of India and Zoological Survey of India have set-up regional centres in the north eastern region for survey and study of Flora and Fauna. The Govind Ballabh Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development has set-up two Centres, one each at Gangtok, Sikkim and Mokokchung, Nagaland. The Ministry had also sponsored three research projects at the Regional Plant Resources Centre, Bhubaneswar.

Ecological Study by Keoladeo National Park at Bharatpur

4455. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an ecology study of Keoladeo National Park at Bharatpur, Rajasthan has stated that the decision to disallow Buffaloes from the Park in 1982 has had adverse consequences in the ecology system:

(b) if so, the details of recommendations made in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government on each recommendation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A summary of the recommendations made in the Report on the Ecological Study of the Keoladeo National Park 1980-1990 by the Bombay Natural History Society is given in the statement below:

(c) These recommendations mainly concern the management of the Keoladeo National Park. The management and control of national parks are vested with the concerned State Government. The Government of India has